resolution

DEMIAN SYNDROME
SECOND STAGE #3

Second Stage
#3 resolution •7

Extra 番外編
Pandora's Box Talk •165

PRESENTED • BY • MAMIYA • OK

デミアン症候群4

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Second Stage

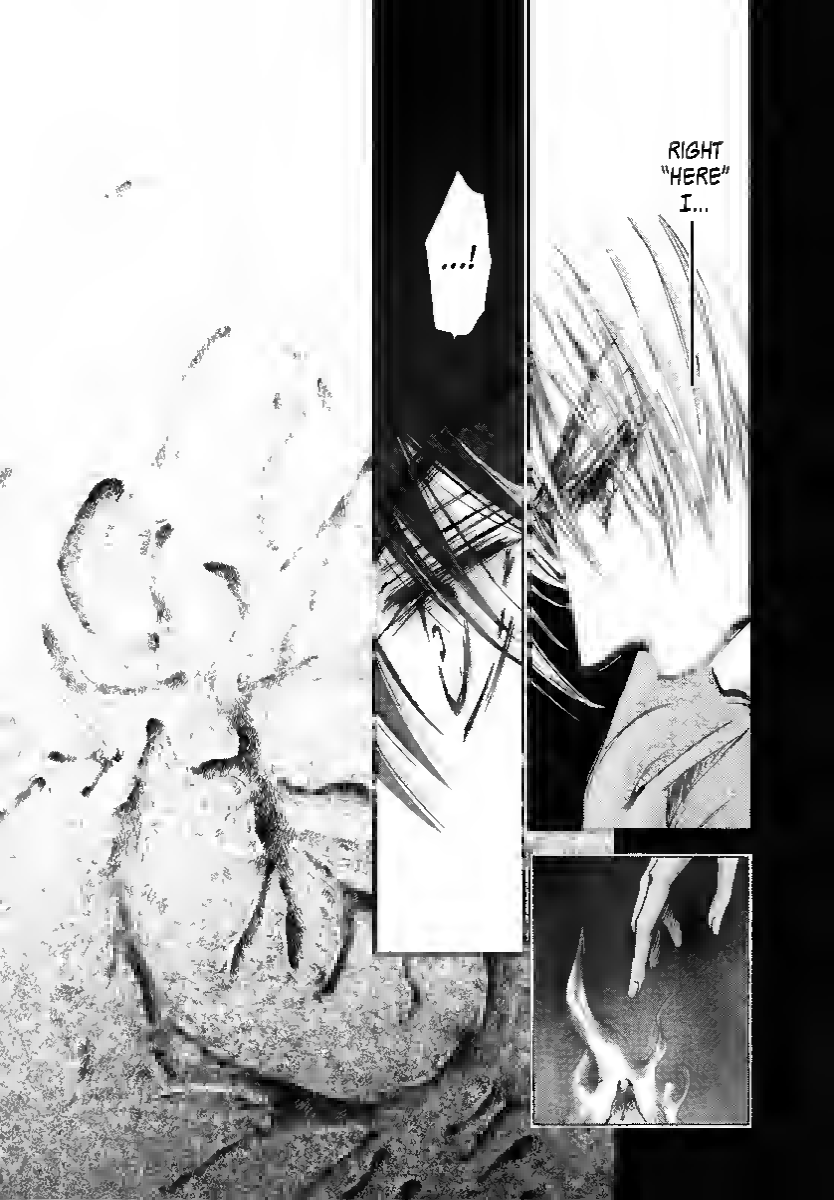
#3 resolution

PRESENTED • BY • MAMIYA • OKI

Demian Syndrome

IF THERE'S A WAY TO BREAK FREE OF THESE ARMS----------
SOMEONE, PLEASE TELL ME

A...
I LIKE YOU
A SELFISH PROCLAMATION AND A ONE-SIDED EMBRACE
BUT...
WHO IS IT I'M HOLDING
YOU WHO HAVE APPEARED BEFORE ME?


RIGHT "HERE" I...
...!

IT SEEMS THE HUNTER
HAS BECOME THE HUNTED

WITH HIM...
IS THIS ANOTHER KIND OF REVELA-TION?
THAT THINGS WON'T GO AS I'VE PLANNED
TELLING ME TO FACE REALITY?
JOU

FOR A MOMENT... DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
ARE YOU REAL?
Haha...
NO, SORRY... I'M SAYING STUPID THINGS.
...BUT
BUT YOU KNOW...
IT'S BECAUSE AZUMA, WHO SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN HERE, SUDDENLY APPEARED BEFORE ME
THIS CAN'T BE AN ILLUSION.. THE STRENGTH OF THOSE ARMS CAN'T BE A JOKE..
Gasp.
...SHALL WE TEST OUT WHETHER I'M REAL OR NOT AGAIN?
IT'S ENOUGH ALREADY!!
AH!!
NO, IT'S FINE!
OKAY...
flapflapflap

I JUST
EVEN IF I HAD DOUBTS, OR WHATEVER, IT WAS FINE I JUST HAD TO TELL HIM ABOUT MY RESOLUTION...
OR SO I THOUGHT, AND THEN
ENOU...
.. GH?
Blush
I SERIOUSLY PUT ALL MY HEART INTO SAYING ALL THAT...!
AND THEN...
AZUMA IS PROBABLY SHOCKED
OR DOES HE WANT TO LAUGH?
YOU SEEM WELL.
TAKA-YAMA.
EH!?
YEAH...
EH?
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR LEG?
YOU TOO...
YOUR CLOTHES AS WELL...

YOU'RE COVERED IN DIRT.
STILL PLAYING IN THE MUD AT YOUR AGE?
HMM
OR DID YOU FALL DOWN SOME-WHERE?
EH!?
WHY DO YOU KNOW!?
Well
SO HE REALLY FELL?
ACTUALLY, I FELL DOWN PRETTY HARD ON THE ROAD JUST BEFORE...
This guy...
....
...OKAY.
UM.. WELL
WANT ONE?

HEY...
WHY DID YOU COME HERE?
....
STILL SMOKING THESE FOUL CIGARETTES I SEE.
Bleeh
WHY...
I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU WOULD COME HERE NOW, BUT
THIS IS...
THIS PLACE IS..
YOU REMEMBER, DON'T YOU...?
IF YOU DIDN'T, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE COME RIGHT!?

SAY SOME-THING...
ANSWER ME!!
AZUMA...
.....
CAN T YOU SAY SOME-THING!?
I KNOW
I KNOW WHAT TAKAYAMA WANTS

"TO MEET BY CHANCE IN THIS PLACE
WE REALLY ARE—"
"WE'RE REALLY"
WHAT?
"THIS IS A PLACE FILLED WITH MEMORIES OF US."
"THIS IS THE PLACE WHERE WE FIRST MET."
"YOU DREW THAT HERE... ——NO,"
"I REMEMBER. THERE'S NO WAY I WOULD FORGET."
"YOU DREW THAT SPARROW-HAWK"
"I REALLY LIKED IT."

EVEN I KNOW THAT
BUT...
I'M NOT GOING TO RUN AWAY ANYMORE
FROM YOU OR FROM WHATEVER HAPPENS
ABSOLUTELY
THAT DIDN'T FEEL LIKE YOUR RECENT RECKLESSNESS
YOU'VE BEEN WAITING ALL THIS TIME...
YOU SAID THAT OUT LOUD CLEARLY.

TO THAT SORT OF YOU RIGHT NOW I
HAVE NO OBLIGATION TO SAY A WORD
IT'S LATE.
I'LL TAKE YOU BACK HOME.
....
ANSWER ME! AZUMA..
So infuriating
...TCH!!
YOU BASTARD.. AZUMA!!
YOU KNOW, YOU-
IT'LL BE BY BIKE BUT YOU DON'T MIND, RIGHT?
HOW FAR IS IT? WON'T THE PEOPLE YOU'RE STAYING WITH BE WORRIED?
ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME!?
WHO CARES ABOUT THAT...

"THAT"?
EVEN THOUGH IT'S CLOSE TO BEING THE LAST TRAIN FOR PRETTY MUCH ALL THE LINES HEADED DOWNTOWN?
WHERE DO YOU INTEND TO GO?
gasp.
WHERE YOU ASK? TH T'S...
...TODAY
I'M GOING TO FRIEND'S PLACE...
...
WHERE'S THAT?
I'LL TAKE YOU THERE.
————THIS IS IT.
I KNOW THAT YOU'RE NOT STAYING IN KAMAKURA.
!!
slide..
I STILL HOLD A TRUMP CARD.
IT'S FINE, I'LL...
TAKA-YAMA.
THERE'S NO NEED TO TRY TO HIDE IT.

I TAKE THE LEAD.
SO TELL ME THE TRUTH.
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO RUN AWAY, ARE YOU?
WHERE SHOULD I TAKE YOU?
BUT I DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU'RE STAYING NOW...
SORRY, BUT WITH THIS, THE TABLES ARE TURNED

I don't have to worry with this
THE SECURITY HERE IS PRETTY GOOD... NOT BAD AT ALL.
shiver
shiver
WHAT ARE YOU, MY DAD!?
shiver
Urgh It's cold
shiver
shiver
burr
YOU'RE QUITE CLOSE TO MY SECOND HOUSE.
It's actually pretty warm in here, isn't it?
COINCIDENCE, COINCIDENCE!
No really
I'm half frozen!!
AH, GEEZ!!
I'M NEVER TAKING A RIDE FROM YOU IN THE MIDDLE OF WINTER AGAIN, I'M REALLY SUFFERING HERE——
....
Shut up
clickclick
LET'S DRINK SOMETHING WARM.
shiver
shiver
DO YOU WANT TEA OR COFFEE?
shiver
shiver
shiver
Well, sit down already
shiver
EITHER...
EITHER'S FINE,BUT DON'T FALL DOWN AGAIN

whistle
ARE YOU STILL COLD?
SHOULD I TURN THE HEATING UP?

NO...
I'LL LEAVE IT HERE, OKAY?
BUT YOU HAVEN'T TAKEN YOUR COAT OFF STILL...
.....
YOU HAVE TWO CUPS?
EH? WELL, FOR NOW.
Although they're from different sets.
THEY'RE FOR WHEN MY DAD COMES.
ORIGINALLY THEY WERE MY PARENTS'
TODAY'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE USED BOTH OF THEM AT THE SAME TIME THOUGH
Hmm
YOU'VE DONE ALL OF THESE PROBLEM BOOKS?
DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE BEEN SHUT UP IN HERE THIS WHOLE TIME?
AH!!
flutter
There's quite a lot
.....

....
AH, I KNOW ABOUT JOUHOKU'S RULES ABOUT WORKING...
SO FOR NOW...
WORK?
YEAH... WELL, I'VE STILL HALF OF THEM TO GO
BECAUSE I'VE BEEN WORKING DURING THE DAY.
Don't look inside them!!
...IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS TRYING TO HIDE IT OR ANYTHING
HERE, THE STORE'S CARD.
SO CAN YOU KEEP QUIET TOO?
café Gazou
AND HE TOLD ME ABOUT THEM THEN...
WELL, ACTUALLY, BY COINCIDENCE, I GOT FOUND OUT BY HATTORI-SENPAI,
chuckle
NO
I THOUGHT THAT SINCE IT'S YOU, THINGS WOULD TURN OUT WELL, BUT...
HOW TO SAY IT
Ah that disagreeable smile again
...WHAT?
Hmm

Good for you.
IT'S MORE THAN I IMAGINED.
YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL TO KITA-SAN.
SO WHY ARE YOU SMILING LIKE THAT...
...I'M RELIEVED
IT'S FINE AS LONG AS YOU'RE DOING WELL.
WORK HARD FOR THE REST OF THE HOLIDAYS.
You talk like an old man.
I JUST WANTED TO KNOW WHERE YOU WERE FOR MY OWN SAKE
DON'T MIND ME
"DON'T MIND YOU"...
SEE YOU.
EH!?
YOU'RE GOING HOME ALREADY...?
I'M AN UNINVITED GUEST AREN'T I?
RELAX.
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF GETTING IN YOUR WAY.
I NEVER THOUGHT THAT...
YOU SAY THAT SO BLUNTLY... DO YOU REALLY MEAN
"DON'T GET IN MY WAY EITHER"?

SORRY FOR INTRUDING
BUT...
AH...
AZUMA...
WAIT!!
I... I NEVER SAID THAT YOU WERE IN MY WAY!!
DON'T ASSUME I THINK THE SAME WAY AS YOU!!
I APOLOGIZE FOR LYING TO YOU AT FIRST...!
AT THAT TIME, I COULDN'T THINK OF ANYTHING ELSE TO DO .
BUT IT'S DIFFERENT NOW!!
WHY .AM I SO DESPERATE?
AND YOU'VE ALREADY COME THIS FAR, HAVEN'T YOU!?
SO QUIT ACTING SO COOL, ALREADY!
WELL THEN, WHY...
THAT WASN'T MY INTENTION.
LIKE THIS, I SOUND EXACTLY LIKE...

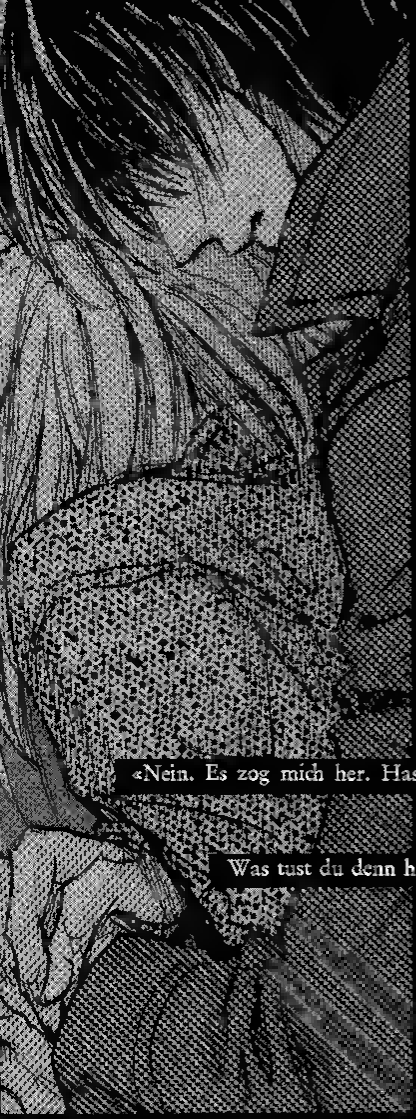
I SOUND LIKE A PETULANT CHILD..
AM I LONELY
BECAUSE I'VE ALWAYS BEEN BY MYSELF HERE?
I—— WHY DID I DO THIS, I WONDER
AH..
EVEN THOUGH, MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE
IT WAS HIM, I WANTED TO LOOK STRONG IN FRONT OF
.. IT'S NOT SOMETHING TO ASK WHY ABOUT, RIGHT
SORRY.

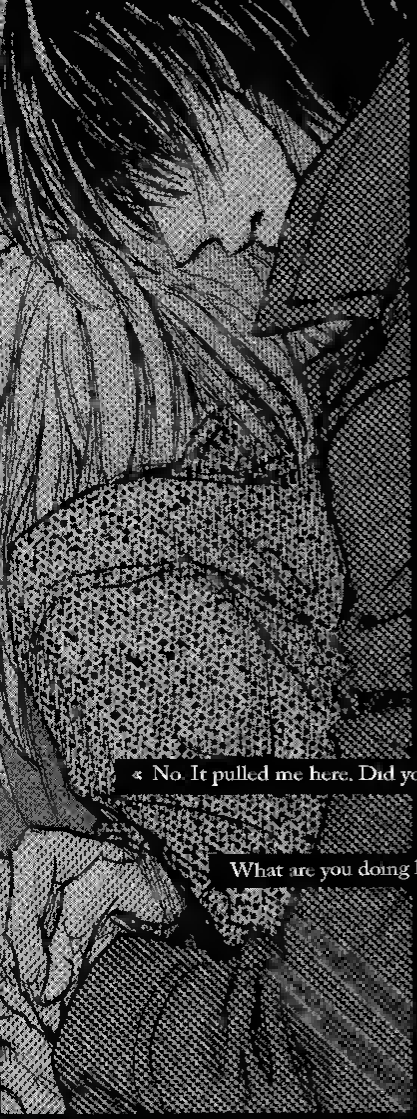
YOU HAVE PEOPLE WAITING FOR YOU
OF COURSE IT'LL BE BAD IF YOU STAY OUT ANY LATER THAN THIS
...HOW'S AKIO-SAN?
AND KIMI-SAN?
AKIO'S AS USUAL.
KIMI-SAN... THAT HOUSE GETS SO COLD IN WINTER, IT'S REALLY DANGEROUS FOR HER.
IF WE'RE NOT CAREFUL.
I SEE.
Sounds tough.
THEN, YOU'VE REALLY GOT TO TAKE CARE.
THE ROADS ARE...PRETTY SLIPPERY.
on the bike
JUST WITH NOT SHARING A ROOM
IS THAT SO?
YEAH, YOU TOOK SEVERAL YEARS OFF MY LIFE.
WE'VE DRIFTED SO FAR APART...

I'll lock the door later, so just shut it on your way out
SAY HELLO TO EVERYONE FOR ME.
SEE YOU
OKAY...
THOUGH IT WAS A SURPRISE, WASN'T IT—
WELL, I'M COLD, SO I'M GONNA STAY INSIDE
SORRY.
...SOMEONE WHO SLEPT ON MY BACK IS SAYING THAT?
Hahaha
THAT BACK-FIRED...
I'M GLAD WE MET TODAY.
creak
slam
slam

——I SAID I'D STOP RUNNING AWAY
...IDIOT.
...I'VE GOT TO GET IT TOGETHER
AND GO BACK TO THE VERY BEGINNING
BUT WHAT DO I DO IF I BECOME RELIANT ON HIM!?
"THE BIRD..."
"STRUGGLES ITS WAY FROM THE EGG."
"THE EGG IS THE WORLD."
SO "THOSE WHO WOULD BE BORN..."
TO THE REAL BEGINNING

"THOSE WHO WOULD BE BORN"
"MUST DESTROY THE WORLD."
"THE BIRD FLIES TO GOD."
"THAT GOD'S NAME IS..."
STUPID
DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU WERE COLD?


«Nein. Es zog mich her. Hast du mich gerufen?
Du mußt mich gerufen haben.
Was tust du denn hier? Es ist doch Nacht.»


« No. It pulled me here. Did you call me?
You must have called me.
What are you doing here then? It is night, after all »

WHY...
WHY DID YOU COME BACK!?
...WHAT?
TH..T'S...
BECAUSE I KNEW YOU'D MAKE THAT FACE.
IT WORRIED ME.

LOOK AT ME.
JOU.
...WHAT
YOU CRYING?
WH...
WHO WOULD-
blush

caress
!!
badum
I
jou...
...!

I
...u
Slip
!
...H...
...N...
!
gasp
WAIT....
...MN!

UWA...
THAT... WAS JUST IN PLAY BEFORE...
BUT...
WHAT IS THIS..
.....
IT CAN'T BE COMPARED TO OUR LAST KISS AT ALL

I WANT TO STAY LIKE THIS FOREVER——
...THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.
IF THIS IS "REAL"
!

I TRULY LOVE THIS PERSON...
I'D PROBABLY WANT TO STAY LIKE THIS...
IF AZUMA WOULD THINK OF ME IN THAT WAY
lick
flinch..
!!

SO-
SORRY
M-m-my ears
AH.
UM...
OR RATHER, I...
GAH BLUSH
WHAT AM I DOING, APOLOGIZING!?
Hmph...
~~~~~WHAT THE HELL——!!
ACTING SO NORMAL AFTER THAT KISS
...IT IS PRETTY COLD OUT HERE
LET'S GO INSIDE
My feet are cold too
~~~~~

TUMBLE
!
wobble
THUD
thump
Thud?
.....
ow ow
—ZUMA...
AFTER ALL, DO YOU RE...LLY...?
THAT...
...THAT'S RIGHT.
YOU SAID YOU FELL OVER BEFORE TOO.
I... I JUST TWISTED IT A BIT.
Ah, dammit
HMMM?
How's this?
It's fine
WH... WHAT?
AH

IT STIFFENED UP SINCE YOU WERE OUT IN THE COLD. YOU'RE FROZEN SOLID
HIS HANDS ARE SO WARM
IT FEELS GOOD..
HAVE YOU BEEN DOING YOUR REHABILITATION EXERCISES PROPERLY?
...SHUT UP
Of course I have!
Hmmm
THE BACK OF YOUR LEG IS FINE
RUB RUB
wha-
WHAT THE HELL!? IT'S NOT FINE AT ALL YOU-
NO, WAIT,
IT IS FINE NOW, THANK YOU!
AZUMA!
....
Ignoring
UH...
...
HEY...
...WHY'D YOU COME BACK?

I ANSWERED THAT QUESTION BEFORE.
WHAT SORT OF FACE IS "THAT FACE"!? I DON'T GET IT——
EARLIER...
DID YOU REALLY MEAN TO COME BACK IN?
YOUR COAT...
...YOU'RE STILL WEARING IT, YOU KNOW?
.....

I...
I SAID THAT I LIKED YOU.
...AND YOU?
YOU DON'T KNOW?
WHY DO YOU WANT TO HEAR ME SAY IT SO MUCH ANYWAY?
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!!
SO DROP THE ACT ALREADY!!
YOU'RE...
IT'S BECAUSE YOU NEVER SAY ANYTHING!
IT'S BECAUSE YOU WON'T SAY ANYTHING.
SO I...

HEY AZUMA, ANSWER ME!
THE REASON WHY YOU WENT TO THAT PLACE
WHAT YOU MEAN BY COMING BACK HERE
YOU CAN TELL ME THAT MUCH, CAN'T YOU!?
I WENT AWAY TO TRY TO THINK THINGS THROUGH ON MY OWN. .
EVEN SO, YOU..!
...YOUR PHONE?
LEAVE IT! IT DOESN'T MATTER!!
YOU RUINED EVERY-THING!
TAKE RESPONSI-BILITY!!
.....

...I TOLD YOU BEFORE THAT I ONCE RAN AWAY FROM HOME, DIDN'T I?
EH?
YE-YEAH...
THIS GUY.. WHAT'S HE SUDDENLY TALKING ABOUT?
IT WAS IN THE WINTER HOLIDAYS OF THE FIRST YEAR OF JUNIOR HIGH.
THERE WAS A LOT GOING ON WHEN I WENT HOME,
SO I DECIDED TO COME BACK TO TOKYO.
HE'S TALKING ABOUT THE PAST? NOW?
——BUT I WANT TO LISTEN
IF IT'S ABOUT YOU, THEN I'LL LISTEN TO ANYTHING...
WELL, EVEN IF I WAS LEAVING HOME, I DIDN'T INTEND TO MAKE ANYONE WORRY.
I DID QUITE WELL ON THAT FRONT... I GUESS
YOU GUESS...?
I DON'T REMEMBER THAT MUCH ABOUT IT.

IT'S A TIME I DON'T WANT TO REMEMBER
...BUT DIDN'T YOU MEET THAT OLD MAN HIRAJIMA THEN?
!?
BEFORE THAT, I STAYED FOR A WHILE WITH SOME WOMAN.
SHE LIVED BY HERSELF, AND WORKED AT NIGHT... IT FELT LIKE SHE WAS TIRED OF A LOT OF THINGS, A LONELY WOMAN.
SHE PROBABLY WOULD HAVE BEEN FINE WITH ANYONE.
SHE QUITE HAPPILY PICKED UP A THIRTEEN-YEAR-OLD BRAT WHO HAD NO WHERE ELSE TO GO.
I THOUGHT THAT SORT OF THING ONLY HAPPENED IN CHEAP NOVELS BUT
IT WASN'T SO.
IT WAS BECAUSE SHE SAID
SHE REMINDED ME OF SOMEONE... SO WHEN SHE INVITED ME TO, I WENT ALONG WITH HER.
THAT WHEN I WAS WITH HER SHE "FELT SO MUCH BETTER."
Are you boasting?
YOU...
SO YOU'VE BEEN PIMPING YOURSELF OUT FROM THAT TIME!?

AND THEN THAT NIGHT
SHE TRIED TO COMMIT SUICIDE BY OVERDOSING ON SLEEPING PILLS.
!!
WHEN SHE REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS IN THE HOSPITAL... SHE SAID
"I JUST DIDN'T WANT TO OPEN MY EYES EVER AGAIN."
ALL THE WHILE I WAS SLEEPING PEACEFULLY...
FORTUNATELY, THEY QUICKLY REALIZED WHAT HAD HAPPENED, AND WERE ABLE TO SAVE HER.
WHY DID SHE...
.....
SHE ALREADY SOMEHOW HAD THE PILLS, AND I HEARD SHE TOOK THEM ALL ON IMPULSE.
...AND THEN SHE?
IT SEEMED THAT EVEN SHE DIDN'T KNOW THE REASON WHY SHE DID IT
WHO KNOWS
I HAVEN'T SEEN HER SINCE.
I WAS A RUNAWAY AFTER ALL. I DIDN'T WANT TO GET INVOLVED WITH THE POLICE.
.....

WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME THIS?
...IT CAN'T BE THAT YOU
THAT YOU'RE GOING TO SAY THAT
THAT WOMAN RESEMBLED ME?
AS USUAL, ONLY YOUR INSTINCTS ARE GOOD.
...I'VE BEEN FOUND OUT.
fin.

YOU..!
WAS THAT STORY JUST A-
IT ALL REALLY HAPPENED
I...FROM A LONG TIME AGO, I'VE ONLY LOOKED AT WEAK WOMEN
DO YOU KNOW WHAT WAS THE SAME
ABOUT ALL "MY WOMEN"?
?
"LONELI-NESS."
THEY HAD THE SAME LOOK IN THEIR EYES
AS YOU.

YOU ASKED WHY I CAME BACK?
AS YOU MAY GUESS, I CAME BACK BECAUSE I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT JUMP OFF THE BALCONY.
YOU BASTARD...
...YOU JUST SAYING WHATEVER YOU WANT!?
SAYING THAT I'M THE SAME AS THOSE WOMEN
AND SO
YOU PROBABLY DON'T KNOW, SO I'LL TELL YOU.
...!!
THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE
WHO CAN'T LEAVE YOU ALONE WHEN YOU HAVE THAT LOOK IN YOUR EYES

DON'T FUCK AROUND!! WHO WOULD DO THAT!?
AND WHEN I CAME BACK TO CHECK, AS EXPECTED...
YOU REALLY WERE ON THE BALCONY.
WOULD YOU STOP MAKING FUN OF ME AND-
...AZUMA!!
EVEN YOU SHOULD UNDER-STAND... WHY!?
WHY WOULD YOU-
I'LL TAKE IT.
JOU.
YOU SAID "TAKE RE SPONSIBILITY" DIDN'T YOU?

——WHAT IS HE SAYING?
"I'LL TAKE RESPONSIBILITY."
WHAT DOES HE MEAN.?

IT WASN'T THAT I WANTED TO HEAR THOSE WORDS
WHAT I WANT TO KNOW ARE YOUR FEELINGS.
..THAT WAS ALL I WANTED
EVEN JUST A SINGLE WORD FROM YOU——
AH...
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING...
HONESTLY... I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO
THAT I WOULD MEET YOU AT THAT PLACE WAS SOMETHING I HADN'T EVEN DREAMED OF

BUT..
SORRY FOR NEGLECTING YOU UNTIL NOW
THAT'S NOT.
YOU DIDN'T SEEM
THAT UNSATISFIED BY THE KISS BEFORE
Blush
THAT'S NOT IT!!
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT...
EVEN YOU SHOULD UNDERSTAND... WHY!!?
ISN'T IT YOU
THAT SHOULD UNDER-STAND?
DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH LONGING YOU SHOW WHEN YOU MAKE THAT EXPRESSION?
...!?

YOU'RE LONELY, AREN'T YOU?
TONIGHT, I'LL MAKE IT ALL GO AWAY.
...!
GET OUT!
LEAVE ALREADY!!
I TOLD YOU, DIDN'T I?
THAT I'D "TAKE RESPONSIBILITY".
HAVEN'T YOU HAD ENOUGH OF MOCKING ME!?
STOP FUCKING AROUND!!
YOU'RE THE LOWEST!
...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, BASTARD!?
LET GO!
LET
!!
thud!
GH!!

Grab...
AZU...
-N-
NO...
Nnn!
thump
WHAT...
WAI-
WHA...!
!?
WHAT ARE YOU...!
AH!
DON'T MAKE A FUSS, JOU.
YOU...
!!
slide...
flinch

BECAUSE YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH STAMINA...
QUIT...
FUCKING AROUND-
YOU'LL BE EXHAUSTED IF YOU KEEP HOLDING BACK SO MUCH...
Aaa!
STOP IT, THIS IS...
YOU CAN'T JUST PASS THIS OFF AS A JOKE...
AH!
STOP IT, AZUMA...!
...TS
Uh!
WHA..!?
NO WAY, ST-...!
ARE YOU SERIOUS..!?
A JOKE? HOW NAIVE.
THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING.
JUST HOW MUCH HAVE YOU BEEN NEGLECTING YOURSELF?
IT'S WEEPING SO PATHETICALLY DOWN HERE...
WHA...
squeeze
...NN!!
Ahn

NO .. WAY!?
A...
NN...!
NO...
A, AAH...
!!
Ah
AZUMA..
IDL .OT! WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
...WAY
ARE YOU FOR REAL!?
huff
slide..
huff!
huff!
huff!
.....u

thud.
THUMP..
AZUMA!!
YOU...!
Ugh..
I TOLD YOU THAT THAT WAS JUST THE BEGINNING, DIDN'T I?
!!
DAMN IT
DON'T THINK ABOUT ANYTHING.
IT'S SO EASY TO CROSS THIS LINE..
...N!
Uh!

YOU CAN THINK UP WHATEVER EXCUSES OR REASONS YOU LIKE AFTER.
BUT FOR NOW, JUST GIVE UP AND RELAX.
...!
THE PROBLEM IS WHETHER OR NOT YOUR BODY CAN REACT.
OUR CHEMISTRY ISN'T SOMETHING WE CAN DO ANYTHING ABOUT, AFTER ALL.
flinch
AH...
BUT
hmm
IT'S NO GOOD
NO MATTER WHAT I SAY, HE WON'T LISTEN TO ME
HE HAS NO INTENTION OF LISTENING
...!
I DON'T WANT THIS!!
DOING IT LIKE THIS WITH YOU... NO!
shudder

NO...!
flinch
...!!
CALM DOWN. IT'S JUST SOME HAND-CREAM AS LUBRICANT.
AZUMA!!
NO!! I DON'T WANT THIS
AH...!
IT'S ALRIGHT, JOU.
THERE'S NOTHING TO BE SCARED OF.
JUST LE. VE IT TO ME.
IT'S NOT THAT...!
I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT!
JUST TELL ME YOU LIKE ME FIRST!!
STUPID

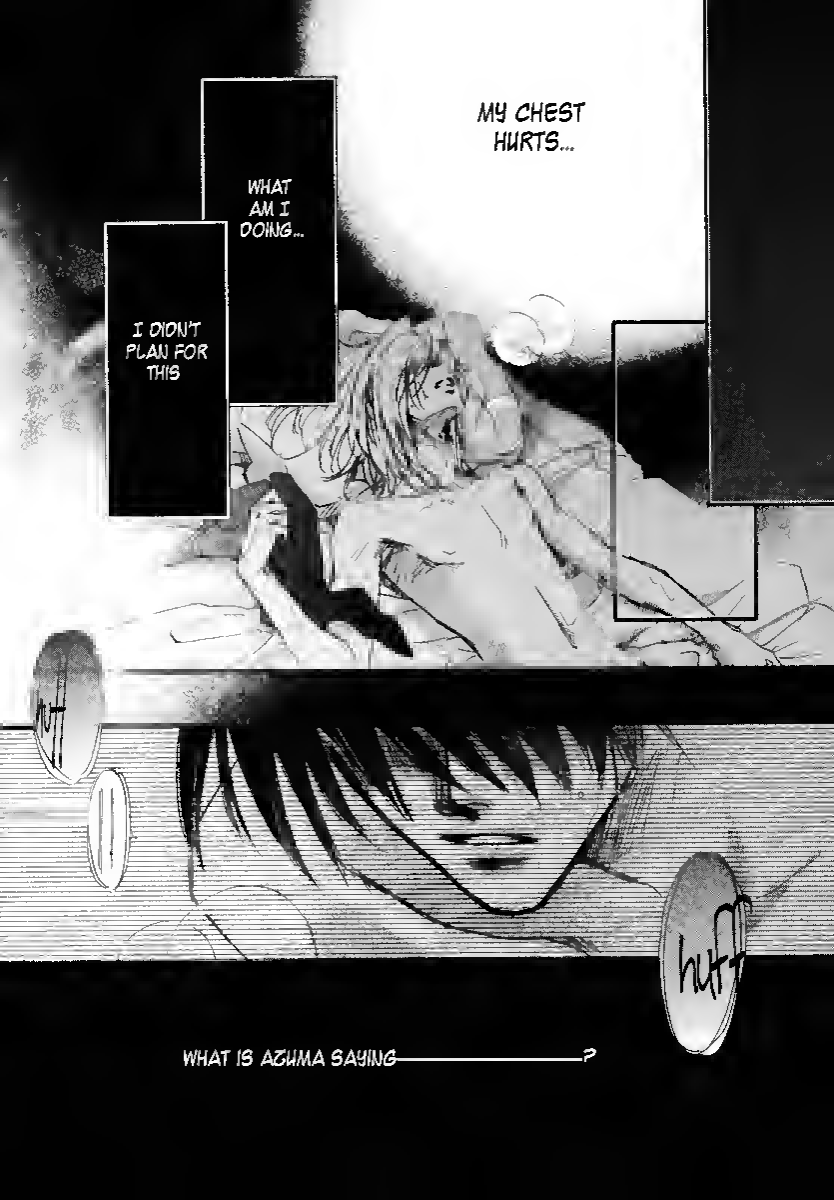
WHY...!?
.....
RELAX.
AH...
IT'S ONLY TWELVE.
HE SHOULD STILL BE AWAKE AT THIS TIME.
BUT HE DIDN'T ANSWER HIS PHONE, RIGHT?
I'm certain he's gone out!
step
step
IS IT REALLY ALRIGHT?
...I'M ACTING AS HIS GUARDIAN!
BUT EVEN SO, I BROKE MY PROMISE...
YOU ONLY CHANGED THE DATE, IT'S OKAY!
Yes, yes.

Sshh!!
Sshh—!!
DON'T SAY THAT SO EASILY! WHOSE FAULT DO YOU THINK-
YOU'RE BEING TOO LOUD! Honestly
IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S NOT HERE
...
!?
SHOULDN'T HE BE OUT HAVING FUN SOMEWHERE?
As a high school student
I'M GOING IN.
I've got the master key.
EH!?
click
Badump..

Badump
Badump
WHAT A PUSHY VISITOR, AND AT THIS TIME OF THE NIGHT TOO.
CAN IT BE YOUR GUARDIAN?
Tremble tremble
Badump
...!!
RELAX.
THE SECURITY CHAIN'S ENGAGED
IT'S ALRIGHT
WHY DON'T YOU RAISE YOUR VOICE AND CALL FOR YOUR GUARDIAN'S HELP?
AH!
...AAUH!
!
!
SHALL WE TRY GOING OUT ONCE MORE?
WELL?
...AL-RIGHT.
CLICK
....
LOOK, ISN'T HE JUST WHERE HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE?
I'M SURE HE MUST BE SLEEPING.
What a good kid.

No..
AAA.. AH!
AUUH ...!
Ah..
AZUMA..!
Azu~
AH-
AAAAA
AHH
fwoosh !!

...THIS IS YOUR FAULT, JOU.
——..!
IF YOU HADN'T TRIED TO PRY SO DEEPLY INTO ME
I WOULDN'T HAVE HAD TO MAKE EVEN YOU CRY.


MY CHEST HURTS...
WHAT AM I DOING...
I DIDN'T PLAN FOR THIS
huff
huff
WHAT IS AZUMA SAYING——————————?

AH...
felt
WHY IS IT ONLY WHEN I'M HALF-CONSCIOUS
THAT HE SAYS ANYTHING IMPORTANT..
throb
I... DON'T
I CAN'T...
gasp
!
grip
AH...!
gasp
!
break

EVEN TO ME, MY VOICE SOUNDS DISGUSTINGLY LOUD...
IS IT THAT HE LOOKS THINNER CLOTHED...? AZUMA'S BODY WAS SO STRONG
AGAINST THE REMNANTS OF MY STRENGTH, HIS ARMS DIDN'T GIVE EVEN AN INCH.
HOW MANY TIMES HAD THOSE ARMS SAVED ME?
HE WOULDN'T LISTEN TO A SINGLE WORD I SAID BUT——

I'M SUCH A FOOL.
EVEN SO, SOMEWHERE IN MY HEART I HAD HOPED
THAT AZUMA WOULD STOP HALF-WAY

IT'S ALREADY FAR TOO LATE

PRESENTED • BY • MAMIYA • OKI

Demian Syndrome

Jouhoku Scanlations

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Demian Syndrome

by Mamiya Oki

Volume 4 c13a

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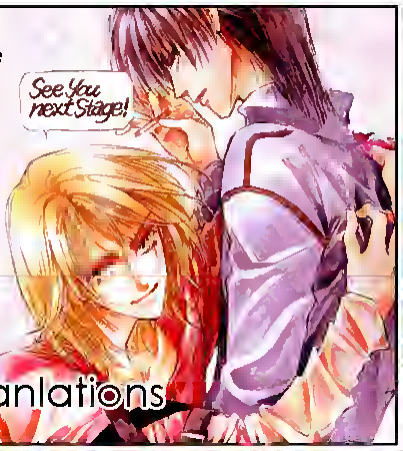
Jouhoku Scanlations



P R E S E N T E D • B Y • M A M I Y A • O N I

Demian Syndrome

THE SOUND OF A BIKE'S ENGINE..
VROOM
VRRoooooM
IT 'S LIKE A BATTLE CRY
...THAT JERK..
MY ENTIRE BODY FEELS HEAVY...
BUT HE CAN ALREADY RIDE A BIKE.
SHUT UP, ASSHOLE!
IT'S STILL THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT!
Ugh...!

D...DAMN
AND I'M STILL LYING HERE IN THIS UNSIGHTLY STATE——
AH...!
——...
EVERYTHING'S BEEN COMPLETELY CRUSHED
MY SHIRT, MY SHEETS, MYSELF——————
I'LL CLEAN UP STRAIGHT AWAY!
THUD
DAMN IT!!
IT'S UNBEARABLE FOR EVEN A SECOND MORE!
shhh
ruste

HIS HANDS
MY VOICE
IT ALL STILL LINGERS
DAMN...
THIS RAW FEELING...
THIS IS THE WORST!
THAT JERK JUST WENT AND DID WHATEVER HE WANTED...
IF YOU REGRET IT SO MUCH
THAT'S NOT TRUE
SHOULDN'T YOU HAVE RESISTED IT UNTO DEATH...!?
DAMN IT!
....!
WHAT WAS I WAITING FOR?

I——
...TRAITOR.

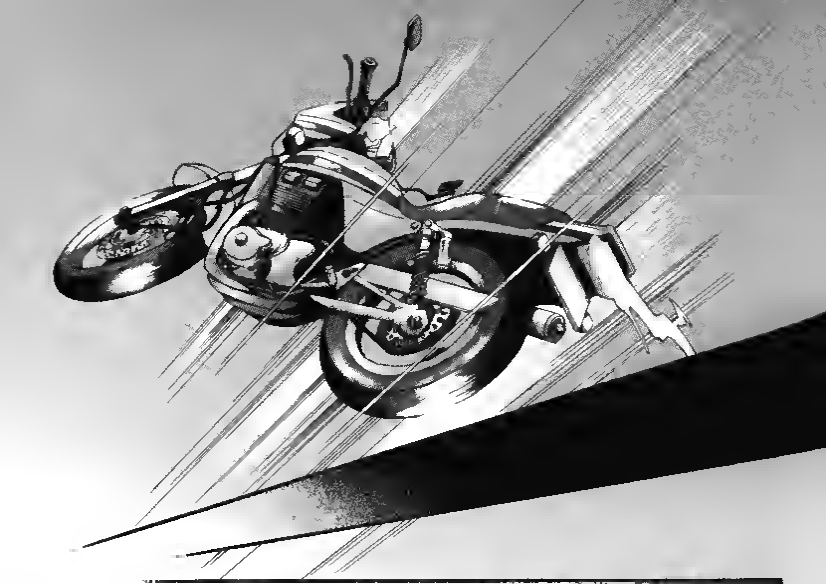
JUST TELL ME YOU LIKE ME FIRST!!
I HAVE DONE SOMETHING VERY CRUEL
VROOM
SUCH A PIERCING CRY...
...I THINK.
BUT I IGNORED EVEN THAT——....

IF HE HADN'T MADE THAT DECLARATION——
IF HE HADN'T BEEN SO PARTICULAR ABOUT ME
VROOM
THE ONE WHO WAS DRIVEN INTO A CORNER WAS ME
THEY'RE ALL EXCUSES.
HE PROBABLY SENSED THAT I WAS WAVERING INSIDE..
YOU'RE SO CRUEL....

AZUMA...
YES...
HE WAS WAITING
FROM THE BOTTOM OF HIS HEART, HE WANTED TO BELIEVE IN ME
TO SAY THE WORDS THAT HE WANTED...
FOR ME
THAT'S WHY..
THAT'S WHY TAKAYAMA DIDN'T SERIOUSLY RESIST
creak
BUT .
...HA!
HA HAAA...
HAHAHA!

Did you get over 120km?
YOU CAME FLYING ALONG BEFORE RIGHT?
WHY DON'T WE HAVE A LITTLE RACE?
glare
YO! THE LIGHT'S TURNED GREEN!
green
I'M THE LOWEST....
AH— HERE WE GO ♪
Vroom
THE ONE YOU WANTED TO TRUST ISN'T WORTHY OF IT
I WANTED TO SHOW YOU THAT
BUT TO DO IT TO THE END...
KU
KUOOOOM

...EVEN I THOUGHT I WAS A BIT BETTER OF A HUMAN BEING THAN THAT.
BUT I REALLY AM A WORTHLESS CREATURE...
I HATE THINGS THAT I CAN'T CONTROL.
VROOM
WHAT'S WRONG!?
WE'VE STILL GOT...
I'M SORRY, ZOW
BUT WITH THIS...
!!
I MYSELF REALLY
SCREECH
HEY!? YOU...
!!



-tang-

...
SO, IT WAS YOU?
STAY AWAY!!

I BURNT IT...
YOUR DRAWING OF THE SPARROW-HAWK.
WASN'T THAT CRUEL OF ME?
STAY AWAY FROM ME
JOU..
THAT BELONGED TO "NADAKA TAKASHI".
THE SELF FROM THE PAST WHO NO LONGER EXISTS——
"AZUMI" ISN'T SOMEONE YOU KNOW RIGHT FROM THE START
SO FORGET ABOUT ME.

...WHAT
AM I GOING TO MAKE EVEN YOU CRY?
IF I COULD HAVE BEEN
I'M SORRY
I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU.
I WANTED TO BE SOMEONE WHO COULD PROTECT YOU
I REALLY AM CRUEL.
ha ha...
SAYING THAT AFTER I JUST TOLD YOU TO FORGET...

IF...
——THREE YEARS AGO
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE SAME.
BECAUSE THIS IS MY PROBLEM.
YOU HAD BEEN HERE...
I, WHO HAVE STEADFASTLY REJECTED YOU
EVEN SO
I HURT YOU FOR MY OWN CONVENIENCE
...GO AWAY.
HAVE NO RIGHT TO THESE MEMORIES

GO!

DON'T EVER APPEAR AGAIN
——————ISN'T THIS ENOUGH ALREADY?
I'M GONNA CALL AN AMBU-LANCE...
HEY, ARE YOU ALRIGHT!?
SERIOUS-LY!?
SO... IT'S FAREWELL

ON THE LAST DAY OF THE YEAR
I HAD A MOUNTAIN LOAD OF UNRESOLVED FEELINGS, SELF-LOATHING, AND HATRED
I DECIDED THAT THEY WERE ALL HIS FAULT.
GAZON
HUH? WHERE'S JOUICHIROU?
HE'S OUTSIDE RE-DOING THE BLACK-BOARD!
Shou! I call him?

Ich wollte ja nichts als das zu leben versuchen, was von selber aus mir heraus wollte. Warum war das so sehr schwer?

I wanted nothing but to experience life as myself.
Why was that so very hard?

I WAS TOLD THIS BY A FRIEND IN A DREAM
I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE ALREADY!
JUST DO WHAT YOU WANT
EEEH!? WHY?
TRY ASKING YOURSELF THAT!
WHERE'S AZUMA? LIKE I KNOW!
I WAS PROBABLY MAKING A PATHETICALLY SAD FACE
WHAT!? OKAY, I GET IT.
IT CAN'T BE HELPED.
WHAT A GOOD GUY!
IF YOU TURN LEFT FROM THE CORNER OF SAN-CHOME, THERE'S A HOSPITAL.
HE'S IN THERE.
SUDDENLY KURACHI DISAPPEARED
.....
Someone who's trying to ask himself

I KNOW THIS HOSPITAL
I WOULD STAY HERE AT LEAST ONCE COME WINTER BREAK...
IT WASN'T BECAUSE I WAS THAT WEAK
BUT RATHER THAT GRANDMA WOULD MAKE ME GO IN
IT WAS PROBABLY TIRING HAVING TO LOOK AFTER MY ASTHMA ATTACKS ALL THE TIME.
Poor Grandma...
BUT GRANDMA SUDDENLY PASSED AWAY THE WINTER AFTER WE WENT TO AMERICA
AH, HE'S HERE.
LITTLE AZUMA.
H, HE REALLY WAS SO CUTE BACK THEN...
WHAT'S HE LOOKING AT?
Geh!
IT'S ME!?
How awful. I look so stupid.
DON'T STARE AT ME SO INTENSELY!!!

rattle
...HOW MANY TIMES DID HE COME SEE ME, I WONDER?
THINKING ABOUT IT, THERE WERE TIMES THAT I THOUGHT I SENSED SOMEONE THERE,
BUT WHEN I CAME TO, THERE WAS NO ONE AROUND.
?
?
IT WAS PROBABLY FROM AROUND THAT TIME THAT I FELT A VAGUE SENSE OF DISCOMFORT ABOUT HIS MANNER
BUT I PRETENDED NOT TO NOTICE ANY OF IT...

WHILE WE WERE APART
I FORGOT ALL ABOUT THESE INCONVENIENT THINGS
BUT EVEN SO
HE BEGAN TO AVOID ME
...PROBABLY.
I FINALLY HAD A "BEST FRIEND" AND I WANTED TO PROTECT THAT RELATIONSHIP
PURSUING IT WAS SCARY, AND I COULDN'T DO IT
I SAY "PROBABLY"
BECAUSE HE TRIED TO KEEP ME FROM REALIZING WHAT HE WAS DOING
WHY IS HE SO CONFUSING!?
WHAT WAS PRECIOUS TO ME WERE MY MEMORIES OF MY "FRIEND"——
AND JUST LIKE THAT, I LEFT FOR AMERICA.
"THAT HAPPENS A LOT WITH ADULTS."
SO WE ACTED "LIKE ALWAYS."
OR SO A NURSE I KNEW WELL SAID

IF I HADN'T HAD THOSE MEMORIES
I PROBABLY WOULD HAVE DESPAIRED OF BEING IN A COUNTRY WHERE I COULD BARELY COMMUNICATE
DAD
I'M GOING TO JAPAN
AND THEN, I WHO HAD LOOKED AT THINGS WITH ROSE-TINTED GLASSES WAS BROUGHT BACK TO REALITY
...WELCOME BACK.
IT'S A USA-STYLE GREETING JUST FOR YOU
SATISFIED?
HE'S GOTTEN EVEN MORE COMPLICATED.
YOU...
——LIKE A DIFFERENT PERSON...

TIME ——— HADN'T SOLVED ANYTHING.

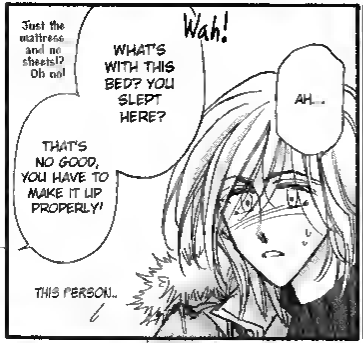
I WAS REJECTED
AS THE DAYS SLIPPED BY, MY CONCERN FADED, BUT WE WERE JUST WEATHERING THINGS AS IF NOTHING HAD HAPPENED
AS STRONG AS OUR FEELINGS WERE, THEY CONTINUED TO EXIST BETWEEN US LIKE A DECAYING RUIN
AND THEN
WILL YOU NEVER OPEN UP TO ME?
STUPID, AREN'T YOU?
SINCE YOU GOT AWAY AND ALL...
I WANTED TO GO BACK TO WHERE I USED TO BE
.....

I WANTED HIM TO LET ME IN
AND WHEN I FORCED HIS HEART OPEN——
NO....
I DON'T WANT THIS'
WHY? AREN'T YOU GOING ALONG WITH IT?
NOW...
AND BACK THEN
NO!
AAH-!
IT'S NOT...
I'M ALREADY
JUST AS YOU WISHED, WE'LL BECOME ONE.
...LOOK
I'M DISSOLV-ING
THIS IS ME.
slide
!
H...!?

LET'S STOP ALREADY
AFTER ALL PEOPLE CAN'T LIVE IN RUINS
I...IS THERE STILL SOMETHING THAT I-
IT'S ENOUGH ALREADY
THAT WAS HIS REAL INTENTION
ISN'T IT TIME FOR YOU TO STOP DREAMING?
REALLY..?
YOU... I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOU.
IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, THROW IT AWAY
THERE'S NO NEED FOR RESTRAINT.
AAAAAA
di—ng down...

sigh
WHAT AN AWFUL DREAM...
IT'S DARK...
WHAT TIME IS IT?
Is it morning? Night?
DID I JUST NOD OFF?
.....
!
Ah, that's right!
AH, THANK GOOD-NESS! EVENING.
I'M KITA'S FIANCEE, INOUE
IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU
Takayama-kun?
AH... IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU
SORRY FOR JUST COMING BY
I WAS ASKED TO BRING YOU A WHOLE LOT OF STUFF
.....
KITA'S BEEN TRYING TO CONTACT YOU FOR THE LAST FEW DAYS,
HE'S BEEN WORRIED
But thank goodness you were in

I THOUGHT I MIGHT HAVE CAUGHT A COLD, SO I WAS JUST RESTING
UM...
AH...
THAT'S.. I'M REALLY SORRY
AH...
AND WHEN I WENT TO YOUR WORK PLACE, THEY SAID YOU'D ALREADY GONE HOME..
HE COULDN'T GET YOU ON THE PHONE, YOU KNOW?
AH..
If I had just left it at that he would have gotten mad. He can be so naggy about it too!


Just the mattress and no sheets!? Oh no!
WHAT'S WITH THIS BED? YOU SLEPT HERE?
Wah!
AH...
THAT'S NO GOOD, YOU HAVE TO MAKE IT UP PROPERLY!
THIS PERSON..

OH, THAT'S STRANGE WHAT ABOUT FOOD?
Eh?
WELL, NOT FOR NOW...
OR RATHER, WHY ARE YOU STILL WEARING YOUR COAT?
Excuse me
OH NO...! YOU REALLY DO HAVE A BIT OF A FEVER, DON'T YOU?
EH?
DO YOU HAVE MEDICINE?

WELL THEN, LEND ME YOUR KEYS FOR A BIT?
Just while I go to the laundromat
I'LL BE BACK IN A JIFFY!

It'll ruin the bed sheets
YOU CAN'T JUST LEAVE LAUNDRY IN THE WATER!
UM!!
I THOUGHT I'D GO TO A LAUNDROMAT LATER ON...
Geh!
Gya!
Scramble
Scramble

Perhaps some slippers would be used?
IS SHE REALLY KITA-SAN'S FIANCEE?
OH!

AH, IKU-CHAN
!
perks up
Ah!
THERE WAS A LETTER ADDRESSED TO YOU TOO, IN THE POST.
IT WAS SENT BY AIRMAIL!
It's delicious! ♡
I BROUGHT SOME PUDDING, SO EAT IT IF YOU LIKE!
Is she for real ?
flop
SHHHH
HE'S STILL SLEEPING QUITE SOUNDLY. WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
For how long?
EH——— HOW CUTE ...HM?
IT'S A LETTER FROM TAKAYUMI-SAN.
AS I THOUGHT, HE PROBABLY IS LONELY...
EH? THAT VOICE...
Argh, it's Eiri

KITA-SAN...
I HEARD YOU CAUGHT A SLIGHT COLD? HOW'RE YOU FEELING?
SORRY, WAS I TOO NOISY? I JUST CAME IN NOW...
LOOK
HE WOKE UP.
AH
Hmmmhh...
!
I'M S-SORRY... I WAS ASLEEP WHEN YOU CAME AGAIN...
AND... FOR NOT PICKING UP YOUR CALLS . AND FOR NOT MEETING YOU IN THE MORNING...
He saw me asleep crap
Ha Ha Ha
WELL, YOU SEEM TO HAVE BEEN BEHAVING, SO IT'S FINE
Old men worry a lot, okay?
But give me the occasional phone call!
SHE ENDED UP TAKING COMPLETE CARE OF ME...
YES, THAT'S KANAE.
TAKAYAMA-KUN
IF YOU'RE AWAKE, CAN I CHANGE THE BED SHEETS?
You two men, move over a bit okay?
I'M THE ONE WHO OUGHT TO APOLOGIZE FOR THE LAST FEW DAYS...
SO WE CAME OVER TONIGHT TO INVITE YOU OUT, BUT ARE YOU UP TO IT?
Said after would you like to come over to our house? It's New Year's Eve after all
EH? AF... TER?
That's...

Nya!
NO, IT WAS JUST A BIT UN-EXPECTED-
WHAT WAS?
YOUR GIRL-FRIEND ♡
IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE YOU MET THROUGH A MATCH-MAKER.
..WHAT?
SHE SAID THAT SHE'S WORKED AT A MOVING COMPANY BEFORE.
WAS SHE INTERFERING TOO MUCH?
Sorry
NO, NOT AT ALL SHE SEEMED SO USED TO IT, I THOUGHT SHE MIGHT BE THE HOUSEKEEPER OR SOMETHING AT FIRST..
Ah
Really?
THAT'S ALSO QUITE UNEXPECTED
DO YOU LIKE MOVIES?
The two of you...
WE GOT TO KNOW EACH OTHER THROUGH A MOVIE SITE I WENT TO OFTEN, AND WE ENDED UP MEETING EACH OTHER ABOUT A YEAR AGO THAT'S IT.
...WE MET THROUGH THE INTERNET.
OH?
mumble
WELL, ENOUGH TO DISTRIBUTE A WEBZINE..
sigh
WHY DIDN'T YOU SET IT UP, KANAE!?
I TOLD YOU ABOUT IT BEFORE, DIDN'T I?
EH!?
ME!?
YOU NEVER TOLD ME ANYTHING ABOUT IT!
TV and VCR in one
WHAT WAS IT DOING IN THE MANAGER'S ROOM THE WHOLE TIME?
HONEST-LY!!
My old set!
So you could take your pick
WE BROUGHT OVER A COUPLE OF VIDEOS TODAY AS WELL
...BUT THERE'S NO TV HERE?
A webzine! I dream!
EH!?

HOW SAD, A ROOM FULL OF EMPTY SILENCE.
IF YOU THINK SO, THEN-
UM...
I DON'T MIND, SO...
cough
OH, SORRY, YOU'RE NOT FEELING WELL.
YOU OKAY?
KITA-SAN
Don't Worry
YOUR FIANCEE... I THINK SHE'LL BE A GOOD "MOTHER".
SO I'M SURE EVERYTHING WILL BE ALL RIGHT.
YES, BUT... IF IT'S ALRIGHT, THIS TIME I'LL PASS ON GOING OUT
Sorry
I'VE GOT WORK TOMORROW AS WELL.
IS THAT SO? WHAT A SHAME.
Even on the New Year?
WELL, DON'T WORK TOO HARD.
SEE YOU!
HAVE A GOOD YEAR!
HE SEEMS LIKE A PRETTY GOOD KID.
And he's cute ♡
YEAH.

"H..VE A GOOD YE,AR"... HUH.
COUGH COUGH COUGH
.....
IKU-CHAN,
JUST WHAT WERE YOU TALKING ABOUT WITH A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT?
Ho ho ho
What's with you?
!
choke
HE?... WHAT WAS THIS TALK OF A "MAN'S MARRIAGE BLUES"?
COME TO THINK OF IT, GRANDMA USED TO SAY THAT.
I SEE... A TV.
EVEN IF IT'S ON, YOU DON'T HAVE TO WATCH IT...

...
A STREAM OF SOUNDS WITH NO MEANING
LIKE BEING IN THE MIDDLE OF A CROWDED STREET
IF I LEAVE IT ON AND SLEEP
WILL I NOT HAVE THAT AWFUL DREAM AGAIN?
AIRMAIL..
EVEN IF MY OLD MAN ENDS UP NOT BEING ABLE TO COME, I'LL BE FINE!
BECAUSE I'LL BE TAKING QUITE A GAMBLE WITH THIS WINTER BREAK
WHAT DID I HAVE TO BE THAT FULL OF CONFIDENCE?
I KNEW THOUGH
THAT EVEN IN THE BEGINNING HALF OF IT WAS MERE BRAVADO..

But I do want to read it
OPENING IT'S SCARY...
IT'S FROM MY DAD
"HOW ARE YOU DOING---?" IT'S PROBABLY LOADED WITH PROBING QUESTIONS
IF I'M LECTURED ABOUT SOMETHING NOW, I WON'T BE ABLE TO RECOVER FROM IT SO EASILY
collapse...
rolls over
IS THERE A CARD INSIDE?
It's stiff
OR MAYBE A MESSAGE...
SMUSH
CLEAN BEDDING...
IT REALLY DOES FEEL GOOD
I HAVE TO THINK...
DOING PERVERTED THINGS IN MY BEDROOM IS THE LOWEST!!
Stupid Azuma!!
DAMN IT!
I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK ABOUT IT!!
So infuriating!
I just thought about it again...!

I HAVE A LOT OF THINGS THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO ME
NOT JUST HIM...
THERE'S STILL SOMETHING I HAVE TO REALIZE
WHAT?
IT'S ENOUGH ALREADY, ISN'T IT?
BECAUSE I'VE DONE EVERYTHING THAT I COULD DO

FROM THE TV
I CAN HEAR THE SOUND OF BELLS
RINGING IN NEW YEAR'S EVE——————

YOU STUPID BOY...
T...KASHI...
EVEN THOUGH I DECIDED
I WOULDN'T RUN AWAY ANYMORE
YOU... WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?
ARE YOU SATISFIED NOW THAT YOU MADE ME CRY?
NEXT TIME WE MEET JUST HOW WILL I...
JUST WHAT KIND OF FACE SHOULD I MEET YOU WITH?

THE NEW YEAR BEGINS——————
GOOD MORNING!
chime
FOR THE MEAN TIME, MY JOB!!
AT THE VERY LEAST, I'LL DO MY JOB PROPERLY UNTIL THE END.
SO I GATHERED MY SPIRIT, AND CAME.
YOU MORON!!
!?

gazon
我家!
Of all things, on new years new years!
THE GREETING FOR THE NEW YEAR IS
"HAPPY NEW YEAR!"
ISN'T IT?

HONESTLY, DON'T YOUNG PEOPLE EVEN KNOW THE PROPER GREETINGS FOR THE NEW YEAR ANYMORE?
And don't zone out on me kiddo!
"AND LET'S GET ALONG THIS YEAR TOO!"
HAPPY NEW YEAR!
AH, IS THAT SO?

GAZO
IN SHORT
MY JOB ENDS ON THAT DAY
"GAZON" IS OPEN ON THE FIRST AND LAST DAYS OF THE YEAR. THEIR HOLIDAY ONLY BEGINS FOUR DAYS AFTER THE NEW YEAR.
GO DO THE CLEANING OUT FRONT!
SLOMP
Happy New Year
Ah, he's wearing normal clothes today
YES SIR!

IT'S NORMAL TO BANG YOUR HEAD AGAINST WALLS WHEN YOU'RE FRUSTRATED,
IT'S NOT THAT WEIRD...
THERE'S NO PROBLEM
Although he seems better than yesterday
...JOU-KUN STILL DOESN'T SEEM TOO WELL
HE ISN'T STILL BANGING HIS HEAD AGAINST WALLS IN THE BACK, IS HE?
IT'S A WORRY.
THIS WILL NO LONGER BE MY WORK-PLACE.
IF I THINK ABOUT IT, I FEEL A BIT SAD.
I'M GOING TO RE-DO THE BLACK-BOARD....!
WHAT DID YOU SAY!!?
What do you mean by that?
IF THAT BOY BECOMES LIKE YOU, MANAGER, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? FROM ANY WAY YOU LOOK AT IT, IT'S STRANGE ENOUGH, ISN'T IT?
It's not a joke
HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Sashimi special menu~!
Come again this year!
GAZON
Ah!...
GAZON'S OPEN TODAY, THAT'S GREAT!
COME IN!
We're open tomorrow too, well!
A LOT OF PEOPLE COME BY ON NEW YEARS.
!!
KRSCH!

CALM DOWN IT'S JUST THE SOUND OF A MOTOR-BIKE
badump
DON'T REACT TO EACH AND EVERY LITTLE THING
BUT...
SKID
IF HE DID COME, I..
badump
THERE'S NO WAY THAT HE WOULD COME
AFTER ALL, HE...
SOMEONE'S COMING THIS WAY...!?
badump
badump
...!
TAKAYAMA
OPEN
GAZON

WHAT'S WRO- ARE YOU WELL?
AFTER I HEARD ABOUT YOU FROM HATTORI, I THOUGHT I'D DROP BY AT LEAST ONCE
IT'S BEEN A WHILE, HASN'T IT?
.....
TASUKU SENPAI
Happy New Year!

WAS IT ALRIGHT WITH YOUR BOSS TO TAKE A BREAK?
Probably
THE NEW YEAR'S SHIFT IS FAIRLY CASUAL, SO THE MANAGER SAID HE DIDN'T CARE...
HAHA... HE WAS THAT ROUGH-LOOKING GUY, WASN'T HE?
BUT... SINCE YOU CAME TO VISIT ME AND ALL
DID YOU WANT TO SEE WHAT WHERE I WORKED WAS LIKE?
EXACTLY...
AH, SENPAI, HOW ABOUT OVER THERE?
♡HOW INTERESTING I BET HE'S SCARY WHEN HE GETS MAD, RIGHT?
ANY-WHERE'S FINE
I DON'T LIKE THE IDEA OF MAKING YOU MIX PROFESSIONAL AND PRIVATE MATTERS.
I'LL HAVE COFFEE, WHAT ABOUT YOU?
...IS THAT SO? AH, I'LL HAVE COFFEE TOO.
SENPAI, YOU EAT DOUGH-NUTS?
ME!?
AFTER, I'LL HAVE AN OLD-FASHIONED DOUGHNUT.
Eh!?
I LOVE THEM. YOU?
Why do you ask?
Ah, then, I'll have one.
I came to have a chat with you!
SOFT DRINKS
SNACKS
Ice Tea
Milk

BUT GOOD WORK ON FINDING THAT CAFE JOB
YOU WERE AT THE DORMS THE WHOLE TIME...
YES! I HAD REALLY GOOD LUCK
DON'T APOLOGIZE
HOW COULD I TAKE MONEY FROM MY HARD-WORKING KOUHAI WHO'S SO BUSY EVEN ON NEW YEAR'S DAY?
OH, I'M SORRY.
AND I THOUGHT I'D HAVE TO GO SEE YOU AT LEAST ONCE FOR SURE
AM I REALLY THAT ENTERTAINING?
WHEN I HEARD ABOUT IT FROM HATTORI, I WAS QUITE SURPRISED.
LUCK, HMM.
IT'S NOT JUST "THAT"! SHOULDN'T YOU BE MORE CAREFUL?
AND YOU SHOULDN'T BE RIDING A BIKE ON TOP OF THAT!!
...SENPAI, WHAT ABOUT YOUR COLD!?
I HEARD FROM HATTORI-SENPAI THAT YOU WERE LAID UP WITH A 39°C FEVER.
OH THAT..
It's ridiculously cold, you'll freeze!
Personal experience
...AH

Haha
HE MIGHT HAVE OVER-STATED THE CASE A BIT.
EH?
I WAS ACTUALLY ONLY LAID UP FOR A LITTLE WHILE.
AFTER, EVERYONE CAME OVER TO MY HOUSE TO HANG OUT!
AND AS FOR THE BIKE... WELL, I REALLY HATE CROWDS.
A CAR WOULD REALLY BE THE BEST FOR THAT, THOUGH.
But I don't have a car license yet
IS THAT SO?
THEN... IF IT'S ALRIGHT- I CAN...
WHAT? ARE YOU WORRYING ABOUT ME?
Hmmm
Slide..
AAH
!!
Do-up!
FLINCH
I AM WORRYING! BECAUSE YOU'RE USUALLY HEALTHIER THAN A DEMON SO——
you shocked me!
I'M HAPPY.
I THOUGHT YOU HAD NOTHING BUT AZUMA IN YOUR HEAD.
spit
REALLY, THIS SENPAI IS...
cough cough... cough
Haha—
SENPAI ~~~~
BULL'S EYE?
What? That again?

Mister Donut
UM...
SOMETIMES, I CAN'T TELL IF HE'S SERIOUS OR JOKING
JUST HOW MUCH OF WHAT HE'S SAYING DOES HE UNDERSTAND...?
!!
TASUKU-SENPAI...?
WHAT?
WHAT SHOULD I DO...
Scary!
THAT IS... ER,
WHY DID YOU COME VISIT ME TODAY?
DIDN'T I TELL YOU BEFORE?
WELL, YES, BUT...
To actually take the trouble to come
EH?
...DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. I ACTUALLY CAME ON THE WAY BACK TO SCHOOL.

EH!?
THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO GO BECAUSE THEY WANT TO SEE THEIR FRIENDS.
ESPECIALLY THIS YEAR, A CERTAIN SOMEONE—
AH...
WELL, FOR ME IT'S JUST THAT MY HOUSE IS TOO CLOSE TO SKIP THEM BUT,
You shouldn't be going, eh?
YOU KNOW, FOR THE GENERAL SERVICES FOR NEW YEARS THAT JOUHOKU HAS?
ALTHOUGH THEY'RE VOLUNTARY
Person who forgot
AH.
KURACHI——...
WELL, I THINK THERE'S NO WAY HE'LL COME ALL THE WAY FROM KAMAKURA BUT...
HE HASN'T BEEN IN CONTACT AT ALL SO...
I'm probably being an idiot too
SENPAI, HAVE YOU HEARD ANY-THING?
Whatever!
BECAUSE I HAD NO IDEA OF WHAT EXACTLY WAS GOING ON
I CONSIDERED BRINGING HIM WITH ME BUT...
"Kamakura?"
HONESTLY, I WAS VERY TROUBLED

YOU GOT A FORMER JOUHOKU STUDENT AS YOUR GUARDIAN, AND YOU'RE LIVING ON YOUR OWN IN A RENTED APARTMENT!?
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO TELL ME, I'M NOT GOING TO MAKE YOU BUT...
SENPAI
I..
WILL YOU TELL ME?
HOW THINGS BECAME LIKE THIS...
Just look at your behaviour during second term
U-UM..
YOU KNOW YOU-YOU'RE GOING TO THIS STIFF, OLD-FASHIONED SCHOOL, AND YOU'RE SO...
ON TOP OF GETTING YOUR JOB WITHOUT PERMISSION,
HONESTLY! WELL, WHAT YEAR DID HE GRADUATE?
It can't be helped.
Although it was through my dad
HE ONLY AGREED BECAUSE I KEPT ON BEGGING HIM
BECAUSE I SAID I DEFINITELY WOULDN'T CAUSE HIM ANY TROUBLE,
SO..

TAKA-YAMA...
JUST BECAUSE I'M LISTENING, DOESN'T MEAN I'M GOING TO GO ALONG WITH WHATEVER YOU SAY.
YOU.
I JUST NEEDED TO HAVE SOME TIME BY MYSEL-
PLEASE!
LIST
...AAAH
I'M DISAPPOINTED SOMEHOW.
!?
——!!
EVEN THOUGH THE DORM HEAD AND I'VE KNOWN YOU FOR THE ENTIRE SECOND TERM,
YOU DON'T EVEN TRUST US AS MUCH AS YOU TRUST THIS GRADUATED STUDENT.
IT'S A PITY.
AND I HAD FLATTERED MYSELF THAT YOU'D OPENED UP TO US A BIT...
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT AT ALL!!
OH, WELL
THAT'S
IS IT REALLY?

I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO THINK ABOUT THE OTHERS...
———OR RATHER, IT WAS PROBABLY THAT I AVOIDED THINKING ABOUT THEM...
I WAS ONLY FULL OF THOUGHTS ABOUT MYSELF
BUT...
I ONLY THOUGHT OF THROWING OFF AZUMA, AND SO I
WHAT HAVE I DONE?
OKAY, MU... I'M SORRY!
I'VE SAID A BIT TOO MUCH.
....
IT'S JUST AS SENPAI SAID, I...
!?
I WANTED TO DO BETTER, BUT I'VE FAILED AGAIN...
I ALWAYS JUST THINK ABOUT MYSELF,
BUT EVEN SO, I CAN'T GET ANYTHING RIGHT
HIC!
HOW PATHETIC CAN I GET———!

HE'S CRYING
HE MADE HIM CRY
SOB!
slatter
CAN'T BE HELPED...
Well
...FROM WHAT I KNOW OF YOU, YOU'VE PROBABLY
BEEN KEEPING A LOT TO YOURSELF, AND TRYING HARD ON YOUR OWN....
DON'T BE SO IMPATIENT.
LIKE THEY SAY, "HASTE MAKES WASTE," RIGHT?
That's the truth of it.
.....
OKAY!?
Don't sit so hard, you're too old for this
HEY, YOU DON'T HAVE TO GET THAT UPSET OVER IT,

.BUT SENPAI...
BUT NOTHING
Just obediently listen to what I've said this time.
...WHY ARE YOU SITTING SO CLOSE, WHISPERING RIGHT INTO MY EARS?
Hm?
WELL THAT'S BECAUSE YOU...
!!
Was dumb enough to be overheard do you?
whisper
Because the entire shop is trying to listen to us!
Extremely conspicuous
IT'S YOUR FAULT FOR BURSTING INTO TEARS IN THE SHOP
HONESTLY!
THAT WAS DEFINITELY MISUNDERSTOOD BY EVERYONE IN THERE!
They were all smiling at us when we left
THAT'S TRUE, BUT...
IF YOU DO THAT, THE SCHOOL WILL PROBABLY JUST IGNORE THIS INCIDENT, OKAY?
OKAY...
BECAUSE EVEN THOUGH HE'S GOING TO STEP DOWN SOON, HE'S STILL THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY TROUBLE DURING WINTER BREAK
BUT YOU'VE GOT TO CONTACT THE DORM HEAD ABOUT EVERYTHING

DO YOU REALLY GET IT!?
grab
NO MATTER WHAT YOUR REASONS WERE
YOU'VE BEEN TRYING TO DECEIVE PEOPLE WHO WERE LOOKING OUT FOR YOU FROM THE KINDNESS OF THEIR HEARTS
YOU SHOULD THINK HARD ABOUT THAT, AND DON'T EVER DO IT AGAIN!
ALRIGHT!?
TASUKU-SENPAI IS SERIOUSLY ANGRY...
....YES!
JUST WHAT DO YOU THINK OF US ANYWAY?
DO YOU THINK THAT WE'LL GO RUNNING STRAIGHT TO THE TEACHERS THE MOMENT YOU CONFIDE SOMETHING A BIT RISKY?
NO...
Really!?
IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE STILL IN A POSITION OF NO RESPONSIBILITY!
YOU'VE GOT TO LEARN TO GET HELP FROM YOUR SENIORS, WHO KNOW BETTER!
Ha ha ha
ALTHOUGH, ACTUALLY THE CALCULATING ONE WAS YOU THIS TIME, TAKAYAMA
DID YOU THINK WE'D MEDDLE, AND DECIDE THAT YOU COULDN'T INVOLVE US?
Are you brave, or just shameless, you idiot?
cut sharply
I'm right, aren't I?

EH!?
YOU'RE LEAVING JUST LIKE THAT?
At least have a drink
SEE YOU
Oh, we're here.
SINCE NO MATTER WHAT YOU SAY, THIS IS "GAZON"
I'LL COME AGAIN, NEXT TIME AS A CUSTOMER.
PLEASE DO!
I WAS RATHER AMUSED WHEN I FIRST HEARD ABOUT IT
I'M SO SORRY
?
SENPAI...
HE REALLY DID MAKE TIME TO SEE ME EVEN THOUGH HE'S SO BUSY
YEAH, SORRY
I'VE GOT TO LOOK AFTER SOME RELATIVES FOR MY PARENTS IN THE AFTERNOON
Since it's New Year's we're having a big gathering.
"Shiba" meaning 「芝」 "turf," not 「柴」 firewood.
BECAUSE IN FRENCH GAZON MEANS "SHIBA"
Although it's interesting that they've written it with the kanji for self (自) and existence (存) to spell Gazon!
EH!?
Turf Grass Grass coloured
AND THERE'S ALSO A TASTEFUL SHADE OF GREEN THAT GOES BY THAT NAME..
ISN'T THAT THE SHOP'S THEME COLOUR?

SORRY—
I'M BACK!
Hey!!
YOU'RE LATE BY FIFTEEN MINUTES
EH!?
THAT MUCH!?
No way!
YEAH NO WAY ♡
It's been more like 5 minutes.
TAKA-YAMA'S FOUND AN INTERESTING PLACE. . OR SO HATTORI SAID.
SORRY, I'LL GET STRAIGHT TO WORK!
JOUICHIROU, YOU....
Hm...?
FROM YOUR FACE, YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE FEELING BETTER
SO YOU WERE ABLE TO VENT A BIT?

what he actually seems to be concerned about
And with that good-looking face and all
WELL, YEAH.
Hm?
JOU-KUN
Hey Hey!
YOU'VE LOOKED A BIT OFF FOR THE LAST FEW DAYS...
Bump!
WHERE'S THAT SENPAI IN BLACK OF YOURS? DON'T TELL ME HE'S GONE HOME ALREADY?
GAZON
...DID MY FACE LOOK THAT BAD?
BEFORE
Well...
HE SAID HE'D COME AGAIN
I WANTED TO SEE HIM
Aw
BECAUSE EVEN MANAGER SAID THAT HE WAS GOOD-LOOKING
Nh?
I WAS JUST SPEAKING IN GENERAL..
When did I say anything like that?
You said another good-looking guy in the series.
UM... IT'S NOT REALLY LIKE THAT BUT
IS IT ALRIGHT... IF MY FRIENDS COME HERE?
I wasn't really sure
GAZON
Hm?
SURE, IF THEY'RE YOUR FRIENDS, I DON'T MIND
We welcome the business if they're customers
rattle
OH, THANK YOU!
Welcome
Hello
ZON

IT'S STRANGE.
blush blush
MANAGER, DID YOU HEAR!?
THAT BOY WAS TALKING ABOUT HIS FRIENDS
GAZO!
My oh my!
Why are you so happy about it? You.
Finally he said something like a high school student!
Go cute!
Hahaha
EVEN THOUGH NOTHING'S REALLY CHANGED, MY HEART HAS CALMED.
IS IT BECAUSE I HAD TASUKU-SENPAI SET ME STRAIGHT?
WHAT'S DIFFERENT NOW, I WONDER?
It's like I've been fixed from the inside
RIGHT NOW, I FEEL LIKE I CAN FINALLY THINK CLEARLY AGAIN——

DOING THAT———————
DID HE NOT CARE ABOUT MAKING THINGS SO AWKWARD WITH ME?

OR IS THAT WHAT HE WISHED FOR.
sigh
SO THAT I COULDN'T BE WITH HIM ANYMORE...
THUMP

SO WHEN I SHUT HIM OUT, THEN THAT'S THE END
...THE END?

GOOD WORK——
That's it. :©
YOU'RE GOING TO THE NEW YEAR'S PARTY, RIGHT? THE ONE AT OWNER'S NEW MOVIE THEATRE.
MORE THAN THE MOVIES, THE DRINKS OUGHT TO BE GOOD——
OWNER WILL SULK IF YOU DON'T SHOW UP.
JOU-KUN, WILL YOU... HUH?
I'LL BE GOING FIRST, EXCUSE ME!
GOOD WORK
Like a hare
....SO QUICK!
.....
stride
I CAN'T RUN AWAY ANYMORE.

I PROCLAIMED "THAT NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS..."
IS THAT WHY!?
THAT NIGHT

..IS THAT WHAT IT WAS!?

IF THAT'S WHY, THEN HIS BEHAVIOUR UP TILL NOW

MAKES A BIT MORE SENSE

WHAT SHOULD I DO WHEN I SEE HIM!?
...I DON'T KNOW
BUT
BUT I HATE IT LIKE THIS
THINKING ABOUT IT NOW
WON'T GET ME ANYWHERE
SO... I'LL JUST GIVE IT A SHOT.
rattle...

IN HIS OWN WAY,
PERHAPS THAT WAS AN ULTIMATUM.

THOUGH I WAS BARELY CONSCIOUS AT THE TIME, I'M SURE I HEARD HIM
——YOU HAVE NO IDEA ABOUT HOW I FEEL.
HONESTLY, I THOUGHT "WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU SAYING?"
"THAT'S MY LINE."
BUT

MAYBE IT WASN'T ABOUT THE LAST FEW MONTHS
BUT FROM FURTHER BACK
PERHAPS IT WAS FROM "BACK THEN"
WHEN I DISAPPEARED ALL OF A SUDDEN
WHAT DID HE FEEL?
PERHAPS IT WAS BACK THEN, WHEN I DIDN'T REALISE? (WHEN I PRETENDED NOT TO...?)
I BECAME STRONGLY AWARE OF MY LONGING FOR HIM
WHEN I ALMOST DIED IN AMERICA
BUT FOR HIM...?
IF SO

NO
IT'S NOT JUST THAT
IT WAS ME WHO HURT HIM FIRST
ALTHOUGH HE PROBABLY WON'T ADMIT THAT
AND I'M STILL CONTINUING TO, FROM THAT TIME
THERE'S STILL SOMETHING ELSE
SOMETHING I DON'T KNOW ABOUT, PROBABLY
I HAVE TO SEE HIM
GIVE ME YOUR VIRTUE, WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT IT?
I'M SUCH AN IDIOT
HOW LONG AM I GOING TO KEEP GOING AROUND IN CIRCLES?
Might as well put it in the compost!!
bish

SEE
HIM,
AND
THEN

Don't be so calm.
IF IT'S FOR A DATE, THEN I'M OKAY WITH THAT.
♪
IT WON'T BE
The exit's over here
YES, I'M GRATEFUL,
IT REALLY IS BAD TO JUST TURN UP ON THE EVE OF THE FIRST DAY OF THE YEAR
BUT
LOOKS LIKE ANOTHER ONE CAME
ANOTHER "GUEST WITHOUT ANY COMMON SENSE."
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, ANOTHER...
!
BUT PLEASE DON'T COME HERE AGAIN.
I'LL COME SEE YOU IF IT'S NECESSARY.
TAKAYAMA-KUN!?

SORRY, AKIO-SAN
FOR COMING AT THIS HOUR. I
IS HE-
Happy New Year!
EH?
CAN IT BE THAT YOU'RE FRIENDS WITH THAT KID?
WHAT A SHAME, YOU PROBABLY WASTED A TRIP.
PLEASE GO HOME ALREADY!!
Now goodbye!
Hahahaha
See you later
Got it!
A wasted trip?
HM...?
You don't need crutches anymore
IT'S BEEN A WHILE.
YOU LOOK WELL, THAT'S GREAT.
YES. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR LAST TIME...
WHY DON'T YOU COME IN FOR NOW?

Haha
EVEN THOUGH I SAW HIM JUST A LITTLE WHILE AGO, AND HE WAS ALIVE AND KICKING...
AH... BUT HIS INJURIES AREN'T SERIOUS.
DON'T WORRY
IS THAT SO?
HIM?
AN ACCIDENT?

AH... THAT'S A BIT OF A LIE
WELL, COMPARED TO HOW BEAT UP THE BIKE GOT, IT FEELS LIKE HE GOT OFF LIGHTLY
HE ONLY BROKE A FEW RIBS
HE TOOK A BIT OF A BEATING ALL OVER AND INJURED HIS RIGHT HAND A LITTLE
...
ZRX (Nike) owner
SINCE AN AMBULANCE WASN'T CALLED, THERE WAS SOMEONE WITH HIM WHO HELPED HIM TO THE HOSPITAL.
THAT BOY WAS STRANGELY CALM, OR RATHER
I KNOW THAT HE DIDN'T WANT TO INVOLVE THE POLICE.
Familiar with?
"ON HIS OWN"...?
HIS HEAD SHOULD BE ALRIGHT TOO... PROBABLY.
ANYWAY, SINCE HE MANAGED TO REACH A HOSPITAL HE'S FAMILIAR WITH ON HIS OWN
I DIDN'T KNOW.. ABOUT ANY OF THIS..
WAS IT THAT GUY FROM BEFORE...?
I'D LIKE TO KNOW THAT TOO.
BUT WHY...
IT SEEMS HE WAS HAVING A BIT OF A MATCH WITH A STREET RACER.
I STILL DON'T KNOW WHETHER THAT HIS OPPONENT WAS A GOOD-NATURED IDIOT WAS A CURSE OR A BLESSING.
Street racer: Not gang members, just people who love to speed.

BUT...
"NORMALLY"...
Um, there's not what I was going to ask about...
The person who had their bike trashed
NORMALLY HE JUST LETS THOSE SORT OF INVITATIONS TO RACE PASS
OR HE PRETENDS TO AGREE, AND THEN SHAKES THEM OFF
tck tck
Even though I told him that he could only race other people after he beat me, that brat - fancy not listening to me and racing some weirdo, that's how he ended up like that
ACCORDING TO THAT STREET RACER
THE AREA WAS CLEAR
HE SEEMS TO HAVE CRASHED IN A PLACE WHERE THERE WAS NOTHING TO GET IN THE WAY
I PROBABLY SHOULDN'T SAY SO CONSIDERING WHAT HAPPENED, BUT HIS SKILLS AREN'T THAT BAD.
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT HE JUST FELL LIKE THAT.
IT WAS THAT NIGHT...
WHY?
WHAT ON EARTH HAPPENED .?
IT CAN'T BE...
STRAIGHT AFTER HE———

AGUMA..
YOU
.....
EVEN THAT MAN, A PERFECT STRANGER
SAID "COULD HE HAVE BEEN TRYING TO COMMIT SUICIDE?" ALTHOUGH HE SAID IT AS A JOKE...
INFURIATING!
WHERE IS HE NOW?
CAN I GO SEE HIM?
I...
EH? OH.
HE ONLY SPENT ONE NIGHT IN HOSPITAL
RIGHT NOW HE'S RESTING IN HIS ROOM
HE SAID HE HAS TO SEE MADAM AT LEAST ONCE EVERY DAY.

THAT BOY WON'T LET ANYONE LOOK AFTER HIM, EVEN THOUGH HE'S INJURED!
creak
creak
EXCEPT WHEN IT'S ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY TO COME OUT, HE SHUTS HIMSELF UP IN HIS ROOM.
HE HASN'T SEEN ANYONE
SO...
...ACTUALLY, I HAVEN'T SEEN MUCH OF HIM EITHER.
creak
creak
EH?
IF IT'S THIS BOY...
BUT PERHAPS
PERHAPS HE'LL BE ABLE TO REACH TAKASHI, WHO'S BEEN SO ALONE LATELY——
I don't know how dependable he is though...

!
SLAM!
rattle
WHAT...!
What was that for!
LOOK HERE YOU...!!
AH...
SWISH...
.....
TAKASHI... LOOK!
JUST NOW...

CRUNCH
Second Kick

AZUMA!!
COME OUT, YOU BASTARD!
KEHH
DON'T YOU DARE SHUT YOURSELF UP IN THERE!
WHAT ARE YOU, A BRAT!?

shhh
...KEEP IT DOWN, OR THE SOUND WILL ECHO DOWN TO THE LOWER FLOOR
THERE'S AN ELDERLY PERSON SLEEPING DOWN THERE
how presumptuous
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, COMING IN AND BREAKING SOMEONE ELSE'S HOUSE, JERK?
Shut up!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO PULLED IN LIKE A TURTLE THE INSTANT YOU SAW ME
IT'S YOUR FAULT.

!
DID YOU GO AND TELL HIM? HOW MEDDLE-SOME..
EH!? I..
STAGGER
The house
An heirloom mansion
AKIO
gasp
IDIOT!
I CAME ON MY OWN.
IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I'D HEARD ABOUT YOUR "ACCIDENT" JUST BEFORE
HEY... YOU TWO
ASS-HOLE....
HONEST-LY
IT'S A PAIN HAVING A "FRIEND" WITH NO COMMON SENSE.
Bang! Bang!
I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO SAY
LET ME IN

AKIO
SORRY BUT CAN YOU GO DOWN-STAIRS AND APOLOGIZE FOR ME?
SORRY,
I'LL FIX THE DOOR PROPERLY AFTERWARDS.
"Er do you have tools?
Give it!
IT'S FINE IF WE JUST STICK IT IN THE DOOR FRAME FOR NOW.
GIVE UP ALREADY. JUST WHAT CAN YOU DO TO FIX THIS?
Look at that cute...

resolution to be continued

PRESENTED • BY • MAMIYA • SN

Demian Syndrome

Demian Syndrome

by Mamiya Oki

Volume 4 Chapter 13b

ORGANISER | Aanisah
SCANNERS |
Lufjad, Meanne77
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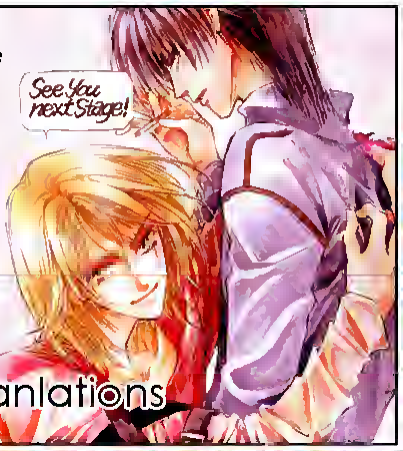
[illegible]
CLEANER | nain__twin
EDITOR | Ah-chan

Jouhoku Scanlations



デミアン症候群4

デミアン症候群（シンドローム）

Demian Syndrome

Mamiya Oki Presents

沖麻実也

CHARA COMICS

Chara COMICS

デミアン症候群（シンドローム）

4

沖麻実也

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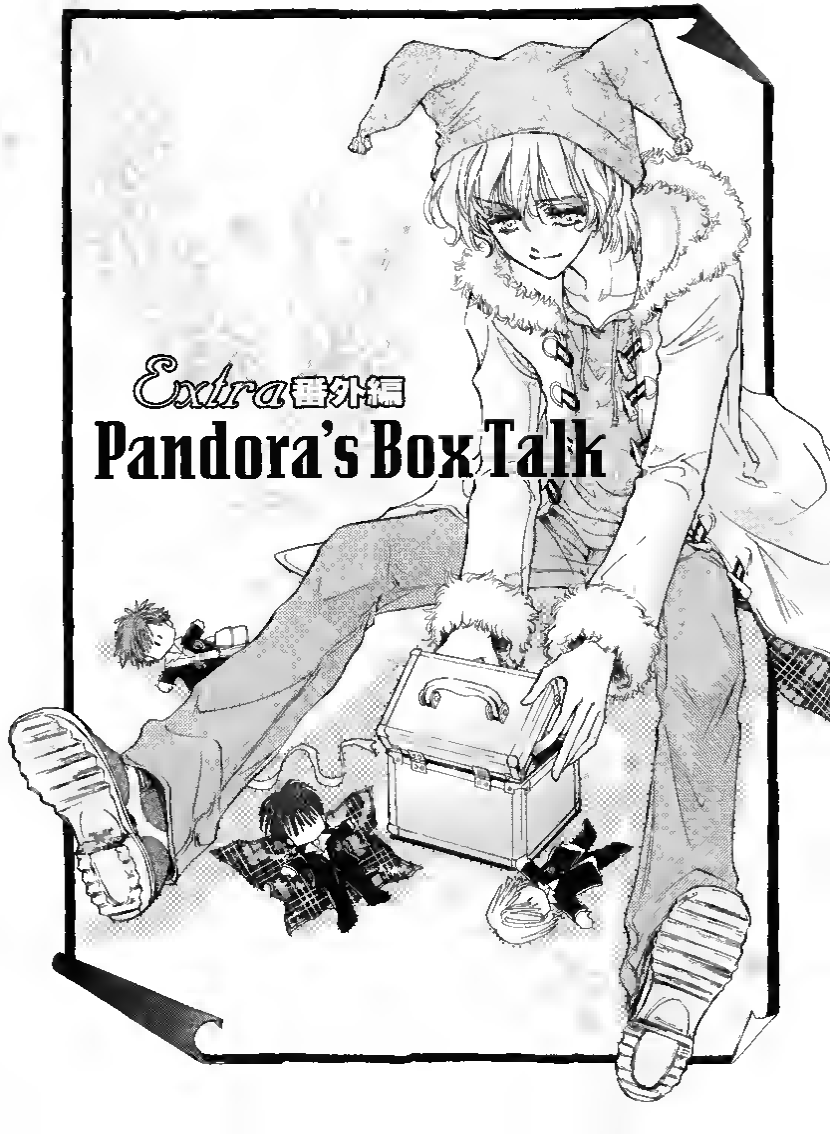
CHARA COMICS

「オレ、おまえが好きだ」。深夜の校庭で城はようやく自覚した想いを東に告げる。ところが、東は「寂しいだけなんだろ」と、無表情に城を抱きしめてきた。そっけない口調とは裏腹な遊びではない本気のキス——。東の本心が見えないまま、城は東に抱かれてしまうが…!?
大人気学園グラフィティー、新展開の第4巻!!


Extra番外編
Pandora's Box Talk

THERE'S A SENPAI I REALLY LIKE
EVEN THOUGH HE'S STILL ONLY A FOURTH YEAR, THE TEACHERS ALL THINK HIGHLY OF HIM. AT FIRST GLANCE HE LOOKS A BIT SCARY, BUT HE'S AN AMAZING PERSON.
EVERYONE THINKS HE'S DIFFICULT TO GET TO KNOW BUT..
REALLY, HE'S EXTRAORDINARILY KIND
ONLY I KNOW
I WON'T FORGIVE ANYONE WHO BOTHERS SENPAI
IT'S MY SECRET DUTY TO SUPPORT HIM FROM THE SHADOWS
BUT THEN THAT PERSON SUDDENLY CAME
HE SEEMED TO BE INVOLVED WITH SENPAI SOMEHOW
HE MADE A PEST OF HIMSELF
HE WAS A VIOLATION OF MY SACRED GROUND
SO SURELY AZUMA-SENPAI MUST HAVE BEEN TROUBLED TOO———

AZUMA-SENPAI, I...
...!
GASP
EVEN WHEN HE KNEW TAKAHIMA-SENPAI WAS ALRIGHT, HE WAS STILL SO COLD...
THE FIRST TIME I'D SEEN SENPAI LIKE THAT.
IT WAS THEN THAT I FINALLY REALIZED HOW WRONG I HAD BEEN
AZUMA-SENPAI
AH...
IT WAS MY FAULT THAT HE FELL
HE CLIMBED UP A BROKEN LADDER FOR MY SAKE
WITH A FOOT THAT WAS INJURED BECAUSE OF ME
I DIDN'T THINK HE WAS A PERSON WHO WOULD DO THAT
OR SO I BELIEVED WITHOUT A DOUBT
UNTIL I CAME CLOSE TO KILLING THAT PERSON

FURTHERMORE, HE HAS FOR A VERY LONG TIME...
THINKING BACK
EVEN THOUGH BOTH OF YOU HAVE ASTHMA!
LIKES TAKAYAMA-SENPAI.
THERE ARE PLENTY OF OTHER TIMES I CAN RECALL TO SUPPORT THAT.
SO THAT TIME AS WELL...
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN I
I JUST WANTED TO EASE YOUR TROUBLES
I'M SORRY
I JUST WANTED TO BE OF SOME USE TO YOU.
SO I WON'T MEDDLE IN YOUR BUSINESS EVER AGAIN

KICK!
YOU USE YOUR LEGS LIKE THIS.
Yo!!
WHY IS THIS PERSON...!!
YUKI!
Don't just let them push you around!
LEARN TO PUT UP A BIT OF A FIGHT AT LEAST!♡
WHO CARES ABOUT THAT!!
TA-TAKA-YAMA-SAN!
DON'T BE SO AGGRESSIVE WHEN YOU'RE INJURED!
OR RATHER
I WON'T COME CLOSE TO THE PERSON YOU HOLD DEAR
PLEASE, SOMEHOW
DON'T HATE ME ANY MORE THAN THIS
EVEN THOUGH I DECIDED THAT

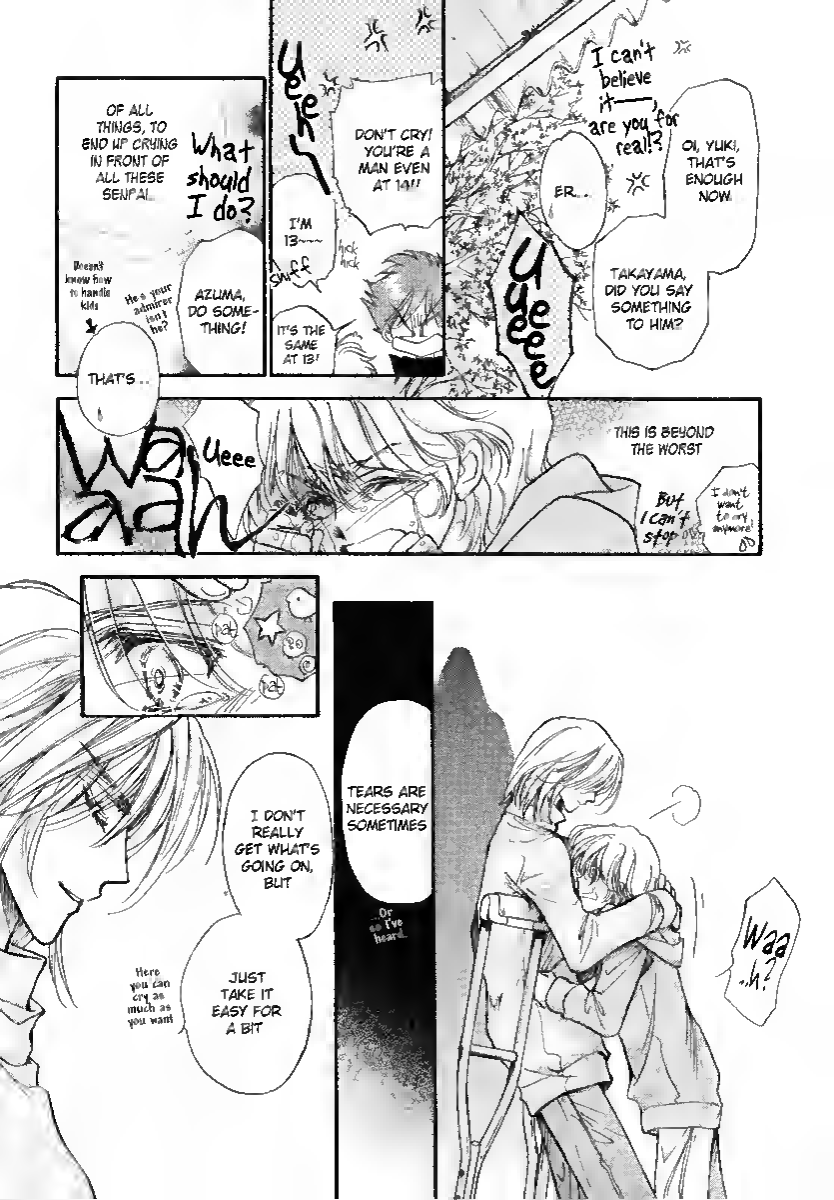
WHY DO THINGS ALWAYS TURN OUT LIKE THIS WITH HIM?
!!
Honestly!
How long has he been there?
flinch
IF AZUMA-SAN FINDS OUT
OR RATHER
STOP IT!
WHY ARE YOU SAVING ME AGAIN!?
shock
Oya
Oya
Oya
Oya
What did you say?
C'mon! You're asking for it
come on
...TALK ABOUT BAD TIMING...
IS THIS YOURS?
YUKI.N2
Ah!!
My planner!!
!
YUKI, YOU'VE A VISITOR!
Hey
I'M DOOMED!
I'M HATED FOR SURE!
HE LOOKED REALLY ANGRY
Top bunk
DON'T DISTURB HIM IF HE'S ASLEEP, KURACHI.
NOPE!
He's just playing possum
AS I THOUGHT. I PICKED IT UP AT THE PARK BEFORE.
But since it only had your last name on it and there were so many notes inside I wasn't sure if it was yours
....THANKS
BUT WHY...
Sorry for the trouble

Hahaha
I didn't want to skirt around it and then regret it later :6
I JUST HAPPENED TO SEE IT, AND BY COINCIDENCE IT WAS YOU.
THAT'S JUST HOW I AM, SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
I DIDN'T ASK YOU TO HELP ME!
I..
BECAUSE OF ME YOU...
EH?
I just happened to see it
THAT TIME, WHY?
whisper
THAT IT'S A PAIN FOR AZUMA-SENPAI
...IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE ALWAYS LIKE THAT
EH, WHAT?
WHAT A CONVINCING WAY OF SPEAKING!
IF IT'S ABOUT THAT INCIDENT, IT'S FINE, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
ANYWAY, PLEASE JUST LEAVE ME BE.
I CAN'T!!
E...
EVEN IF YOU'RE FINE WITH IT
AZUMA-SAN...
WHAT?
The one who fell was me
HOW DOES AZUMA COME INTO IT?
I DON'T WANT TO BE HATED ANYMORE THAN THIS!
wait a minute, calm down
THAT'S WHY I'M SAYING I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING!
Don't just make up conversations in your head! I really don't understand!

YOU SEEM TO HAVE MISUNDERSTOOD SOMETHING
INSTEAD OF BROODING OVER IT, WHY DON'T YOU TRY ASKING HIM ABOUT IT?
I-
I CAN'T DO THAT...
it's scary
EVEN THOUGH YOU'VE BEEN TALKING SO MUCH TO ME?
...THA-
THAT'S
Just kidding!
WELL
IT'S NOT LIKE I DON'T UNDERSTAND...
I DON'T REALLY TALK MUCH TO HIM EITHER.
or rather I can't
EH?
I'LL LET YOU INTO A SECRET ACTUALLY I'M TRYING TO RESTORE OUR BROKEN RELATIONSHIP
SO I CAN'T SAY I'M THAT GREAT MYSELF
EEH!?
ON THE CONTRARY, THERE'S A LOT I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU
So how about it?
EEEH!?
Well let's leave that for now
ANYWAY, TRY TALKING TO HIM
IT'S NOT LIKE HE'LL BITE

Ha ha ha
LET'S BOTH WORK HARD ON IT, OKAY?
IF YOU CAN GATHER WHAT YOU WANT TO SAY, COME BY MY ROOM I'LL COLLABORATE WITH YOU ON IT.
WH- WHY DID IT TURN OUT LIKE THIS?
———OR RATHER, HE'S JUST TALKING ABOUT WHATEVER HE LIKES...
EH?
EEEEEEEEH!?
SAY WHAT!?
SAY.. COLLA-BORATE?
LET'S WORK HARD?
I...
I REALLY DIDN'T WANT TO SAY ANYTHING
BUT...
Did you not get enough sleep?
YUKI?
HEY...
That was fast!
UWA
YOUR EYES ARE ALL RED!
What's wrong?
LIKE THIS,
TAKA-YAMA-SENPAI WILL...
EH?

By Takayama
By Azuma
Hard for Yuki to understand
Takayama
But he never said anything to Takayama
Always watched Azuma
Involved with Yuki
Swirl Swirl
BUT IF I IGNORE HIM, I'LL BE SCOLDED
BUT IF I'M WITH HIM, I'LL BE HATED
HE'S A GOOD PERSON BUT A BIT HARD TO UNDER-STAND
SO WHEN TAKAYAMA-SENPAI GOT INVOLVED, HE DIDN'T UNDERSTAND AT ALL AND
I'VE ALWAYS WATCHED SENPAI, BUT EVEN THOUGH HE LIKES SENPAI HE NEVER SAID ANYTHING
I JUST, ABOUT AZUMA-SENPAI,
TO AZUMA-SENPAI, I. .
Uuh
choke
!?
Azuma
..I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO ALREADY!
AND THEN SENPAI-
Kurachi
Ugu ...
Takayama didn't understand about Azuma
HEY HEY
?
shake shake shake
Uu
Crush
UW
Argh, he's crying
I DON'T GET IT
stunned
?
Excuse me!
HE'S STILL HALF ASLEEP!
Well
Hahahaha
Eh, for real? Where, where?
The new Frosh 3A made a second year cry
What happened?
Let's go somewhere more private..
SHUT UP ALREADY
Uuu
so
Ugh
tread
shove


OF ALL THINGS, TO END UP CRYING IN FRONT OF ALL THESE SENPAI...
What should I do?
Doesn't know how to handle kids
He's your admirer isn't he?
AZUMA, DO SOMETHING!
THAT'S..
Yeek
DON'T CRY! YOU'RE A MAN EVEN AT 14!!
I'M 13~~~
Sniff
sick sick
IT'S THE SAME AT 13!
I can't believe it—, are you for real!?
ER...
OI, YUKI, THAT'S ENOUGH NOW.
TAKAYAMA, DID YOU SAY SOMETHING TO HIM?
Ueeee
Waaah
Ueeee
THIS IS BEYOND THE WORST
But I can't stop
I don't want to cry anymore!
TEARS ARE NECESSARY SOMETIMES
...Or so I've heard...
I DON'T REALLY GET WHAT'S GOING ON, BUT
JUST TAKE IT EASY FOR A BIT
Here you can cry as much as you want
Waa...h?

Oh
IT REALLY DOES.
Ha ha ha
IT'S THE TAKAYAMA FAMILY'S FINAL SUCCESSION TECHNIQUE TO SHUT UP CRYING CHILDREN!
Azuma? I connect everything to America?
SHUT UP!
Kya kya, how cappy! umaaaa!
It's kind of nice ♪♡
...DID YOU LEARN THAT IN AMERICA TOO?
pat pat
frozen stiff stopped
MY DAD USED TO DO THIS TO ME..
Eh?
WHAT THE HELL? NO WAY!
Is he really Japanese?
Eh
IS THAT SO?
Your family doesn't hug?
WE DON'T.
Oh no
HEY, AZUMA'S AWKWARD SMILE SET HIM OFF AGAIN.
U—
I DON'T REALLY GET IT BUT
smile..
..uuu hick
What?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, IT WASN'T EASY TO-
Huh?
Ue
LET MEN CRY!
Is that so? Cereal
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT
Pandora's Box Talk
End

PRESENTED • BY • MAMIYA • OKI

Demian Syndrome

See you next Stage!!

Jouhoku Scanlations

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Demian Syndrome

by Mamiya Oki

Volume 4 Extra

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